GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6185
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
UPGRADATION OF AIRPORTS
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have not come up with a scheme to upgrade metro airports or finalise the model of privatisation and the structure for routing the private investment;

(b) if so, whether the budget for 2002-03 and 2003-04 had provision for Delhi and Mumbai Airports only; and

(c) if so, by when the final decision for upgradation of these airports is likely to be taken?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)
(a):- The Government of India, in January 2000, approved therestructuring of the airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI)through long term leasing route as and when found suitable. At the first instance, the international airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata were taken up for this exercise. A comprehensive Bill, namely AAI (Amendment) Bill2003 i s being introduced in the Parliament to include an enabling provision in AAI Act for leasing of the airports.
(b):- Hon`ble Finance Minister, in his Budget speech 2002-03had, inter-alia, stated that the international Airport at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata would be upgraded to thestandards o f world class airports b y inducting private sector management and investment through long term leasing. In the Budget 2003-04, it has been announced that in addition to the existing initiative for leasing of major airports, Delhi and Mumbai Airports, as the principal hubs of international travel to India, will be taken up for modernisation to international standards. Two separate companies will b e formed with initial equal equity participation from the Airports Authority of India. These two companies could also take joint venture partners.
(c):- A specific time frame cannot be indicated at this stage.